

CLAIMS

1. Base cloth for tufted carpet, wherein the base cloth is constituted by nonwoven fabric made of filaments formed of poly lactic acid based polymer, wherein the filament has round cross-section, birefringence of  $12 \times 10^{-3}$  to  $30 \times 10^{-3}$  and crystallization degree of 15 to 25 percent by weight, and wherein the base cloth for tufted carpet has heat shrinkage of 1 percent or less at  $120^{\circ}\text{C}$  in 3 minutes both in a machine direction and a cross direction thereto.

2. Base cloth according to claim 1, wherein the filament constituting the nonwoven fabric has one of the cross-sections selected from a group of single phase, side-by-side, islands-sea and sheath-core types.

3. Base cloth for tufted carpet, wherein the base cloth is constituted by nonwoven fabric made of filaments formed of poly lactic acid based polymer, wherein the filament has non-round cross-section and crystallization degree of 15 to 25 percent by weight, and wherein the base cloth for tufted carpet has heat shrinkage of 1 percent or less at  $120^{\circ}\text{C}$  in 3 minutes both in a machine direction and a cross direction thereto.

4. Base cloth according to claim 3, wherein the filament constituting the nonwoven fabric has one of the cross-sections selected from a group of single phase, side-by-side, islands-sea, sheath-core and multilobe types.

5. Base cloth according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the filaments constituting the nonwoven fabric are thermally bonded with each other.
6. Base cloth according to claim 5, wherein the filaments constituting the nonwoven fabric are partially bonded with heat and pressure with each other or thermally bonded at contact points of the filaments.
7. Base cloth according to claim 5, wherein the filaments constituting the nonwoven fabric are three-dimensionally entangled with each other and the filaments are partially bonded with heat and pressure to each other or thermally bonded at contact points of the filaments.
8. Base cloth according to any one of claims 5 to 7, wherein the filaments are adhered with each other by binder resin at the contact points thereof.
9. Base cloth according to claim 8, wherein the binder resin is poly lactic acid based polymer.
10. Tufted carpet comprising the base cloth according to any one of claims 1 to 9.
11. Tufted carpet according to claim 10, wherein the base cloth is tufted by pile yarn formed of poly lactic acid based polymer.
12. Tufted carpet according to claim 11, wherein the pile yarn is formed of bulky continuous filament.
13. Tufted carpet according to any one of claims 10 to 12, wherein backing layer is attached to a side opposite to the tufted pile

side of the base cloth, and the backing layer is formed of biodegradable material.